

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Above line 1 of page 2, please insert the following paragraph.

This application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/082,527, filed on February 22, 2002, which is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/551,411, filed April 18, 2000 and now U.S. Patent No. 6,366,303, which is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/104,251, filed August 9, 1993 and now U.S. Patent No. 6,061,062, which is a continuation application of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/811,830, filed December 20, 1991 and now abandoned.

Under line 6 of page 7, please insert the following paragraph.

Figure 11 shows a flowchart of a preferred embodiment.

Please replace the paragraph on page 18, lines 21-31, with the following paragraph.

The timeline may also be scrolled without moving the indicator. This is accomplished by using two arrow icons which are positioned on either side of the timeline. Referring back to ~~Figure 6~~ Figures 6A and 6B, it can be seen that arrow icons 32 and 33 are respectively located to the immediate left and right of timeline 14. Arrow icon 32 points to the left, and arrow icon 33 points to the right. If the user positions the cursor over one of these two arrow icons, depresses the mouse button, and keeps ~~it~~ it depressed, several events happen simultaneously. The cursor disappears, the selected arrow icon is highlighted,

arrow icons appear above and below scale slider 11, control knob 16 becomes highlighted, timeline 14 begins to scroll, and arrow symbols appear.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 21-22, with the following paragraph.

Figures 6A and 6B ~~Figure 6~~ are a series of screen shots of the Zooming History Controller display at various time scales ranging from decades to seconds.

Please replace the paragraph on page 15, lines 1-12, with the following paragraph.

Figures 6A and 6B ~~Figure 6~~ shows screen shots 25-30 of timeline 14 at various scales ranging from decades to seconds. The selected time is shown by the column of fields 12. The column of fields 12 is divided into rows 19-24, corresponding to convenient time fields, shown on the left-hand side, and the selected time units, shown on the right-hand side. Row 19 gives the year field (Year) and the selected year unit (1975). Row 20 gives the month field (Month) and the selected month unit (Jan). Row 21 gives the day field (Day) and the selected day unit (17th). Row 22 gives the hour field (Hour) and the selected hour unit (11 am). Row 23 gives the minute field (Minute) and the selected minute unit (:05). Row 24 gives the seconds field (Second) and the selected second unit (:13). Thus, the selected time in FIG. 3 is 13 seconds past 11:05 am of Jan. 17, 1975.

Please replace the paragraphs from line 24 of page 15 to line 13 of page 17 with the following paragraphs respectively.

It can be seen from screen shots 25-30 of ~~Figure 6~~ Figures 6A and 6B that as the scale is decreased, the resolution of timeline 14 is increased. Screen shot 25 shows the scale in years. Timeline 14 gives a range of approximately a decade. This allows the user to select a time to a resolution of years. Screen shot 26 shows the scale in months. Its timeline gives a range of approximately two years. This allows the user to select a time to a resolution of months instead of years. As the scale is decreased, the resolution increases. Screen shot 30 shows the scale in seconds. The range of timeline 14 for screen shot 30 covers a range of approximately 15 seconds. This allows the user to select a time to a resolution of seconds. Thus, by simulating controlling the scale and value of the timeline, this embodiment allows the user to select a particular time, within seconds, from a range of a century.

The fields and the selected times are highlighted up to the current finest-resolved selected time. Finer scales and units are dim, in comparison. This is illustrated in ~~Figure 6~~ Figures 6A and 6B. In screen shot 25, the selected scale is in years and the corresponding selected time unit is 1975. Thus, for that resolution, the "Year" field and the "1975" time unit are highlighted. As the resolution increases, as in screen shot 28, it can be seen that the prior selected fields (i.e., "Year", "Month", and "Day") and selected time units ("1975", "Jan", and "17th") remain highlighted. The current selected field ("Hour") and the current selected time unit ("11 am") are also highlighted. Yet the finer fields ("Minute" and "Second") and time units (":05 :" and ":13") which have yet to be selected by the user, remain dimmed.

As shown in ~~Figure 6~~ Figures 6A and 6B, indicator 13 includes an icon and a vertical line segment. The icon for indicator 13 resides halfway along the top of timeline 14. The vertical line segment extends from the bottom of the indicator icon, through timeline 14, to the bottom edge of timeline 14. The line segment intersects timeline 14 which corresponds to the selected time (also displayed by the column of fields 12). As the scale is changed, the icon representing the indicator also changes to reflect the change in the scale. For example, the indicator icon representing the year scale, is in the shape of an hourglass, as shown in screen shot 25. The icon representing indicator 13 changes to the shape of a ~~calendar~~ calendar for time scales of months and days, as shown in screen shots 26 and 27, respectively. The icon representing indicator 13 changes to the shape of a clock for time scales of hours and minutes, as shown in screen shots 28 and 29, respectively. The icon representing indicator 13 changes to the shape of a stopwatch for the time scale of seconds.

Once the desired field has been selected, the user may then select any time unit within that field. For example, in screen shot 26 of ~~Figure 6~~ Figure 6A, since the user has selected the month scale, the user may now select time units corresponding to months of the year (e.g., January-December). This is accomplished by moving the mouse horizontally. (Remember that the scale was controlled by moving the mouse vertically.) Horizontal movement of the mouse controls the timeline and thus the position of access into the data at the selected scale/magnification.

Furthermore, once a desired field has been selected, the scale can, nevertheless, be changed within that field. For example, in screen shot 25 of ~~Figure 6~~ Figure 6A, even though the selected field is "Years", the user may change the scale of timeline 14 so long as what is displayed remains in years. Thus, timeline 14 may have an enlarged scale such that a decade is shown or may have a reduced scale such that only half a dozen years are shown. Likewise, in screen shot 27, given the same field ("Day", timeline 14 may have a scale encompassing 12 days (as shown) or may have a reduced scale encompassing only a couple of days.

Please replace the paragraph on page 18, lines 3-11, with the following paragraph.

When the indicator is moved to either edge of the timeline, in addition to the display of the arrow symbol, the timeline will scroll. The timeline will scroll to the right if the indicator is moved to the left-most edge. Conversely, the timeline will scroll to the left if the indicator is moved to the right-most edge. Thus, in ~~Figure 6~~ Figures 6A and 6B, the "8 am", "Noon", "4 pm", etc. markers and their corresponding submarkers will be scrolled to the right. New markers such as "4 am", "Midnight", "8 pm", etc. and their corresponding submarkers will successively appear from the left and be progressively scrolled to the right.